

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00883 221624Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-15 /073 W
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R 221607Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9036
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL BELFAST

UNCLAS DUBLIN 883

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR EI
SUBJ: POLITICS, SPORT AND THE IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS

1. A MINOR STORM HAS ARISEN HERE OVER THE APPARENT
DECISION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN GELIC ATHLETIC
ASSOCIATION (G.A.A.) TO BAR TWO IRISH SOCCER PLAYERS
FROM THE UPCOMING ANNUAL TOUR OF IRISH TEAMS TO THE
U.S. ACCORDING TO THE PAPERS, THE PLAYERS ARE BEING
BANNED BECAUSE THEY HELPED TO CLEAR THE FIELD OF PRO-
PROVISIONAL IRA DEMONSTRATORS AT THE NATIONAL LEAGUE
FINAL IN DUBLIN LAST SUNDAY. AGAIN ACCORDING TO THE PAPERS,
THE ACTION WAS TAKEN AT THE REQUEST OF FATHER MCMANUS
AND THE IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS.

2. THE REACTION HERE TO THIS MOVE HAS BEEN ALMOST A
UNANIMOUS CRY OF OUTRAGE. THE PUMMELLING OF THE
DEMONSTRATORS WAS LOUDLY AND WIDELY APPLAUDED. IT IS
SERIOUS, AND DANGEROUS BUSINESS TO INTERRUPT A BIG
SPORTING EVENT HERE, AND EVEN NORMAL PROVISIONAL
SUPPORTERS ARE NOT TRYING TO DEFEND THE DEMONSTRATORS.

3. THE IRISH GAA WILL VOTE TONIGHT ON CANCELLING THE
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TOUR. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE AMERICAN GROUP WILL
RECONSIDER WHEN THEY HEAR OF THE FURORE CAUSED BY THEIR
ACTION. AS ONE COMMENTATOR SAID: "POLITICS IS ONE
THING, SPORT IS ANOTHER". CURLEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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